

CD 99-99-100



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Raffi Armenian, Music Director and Conductor
Scott St. John, Violin Soloist

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
Faculty of Music

Saturday, December 11, 1999 at 8 p.m.

Walter Hall

FACULTY OF MUSIC

Presents

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

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PROGRAMME

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

Orchestral Suite No. 3, BWV 1068

Ouverture

Air

Gavotte I/II

Bourrée

Gigue

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

(1756-1791)

Violin Concerto No. 5 in A major, K.219

Allegro Aperto

Adagio

Rondeau. Tempo di Menuetto

Ludwig van Beethoven

(1770-1827)

Symphony No. 4 in B-flat major, Op. 80

Adagio. Allegro vivace

Adagio

Allegro vivace

Allegro, ma non troppo

INTERMISSION

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FM
TORONTO

CLASSICAL 103.1
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EASTERN ONTARIO

Remenyi
house of music

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Music's 1999-2000 season*

Sponsor of the 1999-2000 Chamber Orchestra Series

Meet the Artists

Trained in the European tradition, **Raffi Armenian** studied piano, conducting and composition in Vienna with Bruno Seidlhofer, Hans Swarowsky, Ferdinand Grossman and Alfred Uhl respectively. The young maestro landed his first conducting engagements at the Atlantic Symphony in Nova Scotia, Canada. Choosing to become a Canadian citizen, Maestro Armenian quickly established an illustrious career here with numerous long-term engagements to his credit. Perhaps the most prominent of these was his position as Music Director of the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, a position he held for 22 years. Music Director of the Stratford Festival, he established the Canadian Chamber Ensemble (CCE). Today the sixteen members of the CCE enjoy an international profile through a series of tours to South America, Europe, and the United States. In November 1994, Maestro Armenian accepted the position of Interim Music Director of the Nova Scotia Symphony where he not only served from the podium but also shared his expertise by acting as advisor in their search for a new permanent Music Director.

While living and working in Canada, Maestro Armenian garnered numerous awards for his work. He conducted a television version of Menotti's *THE MEDIUM*, which was nominated for an Emmy Award that season. He received a Juno nomination for a recording of Ravel and Schoenberg with one of Canada's great singers, Maureen Forrester, and the Canadian Chamber Ensemble. In 1988, the CCE was awarded the Grand Prix du Disque from the Canadian Music Council for its *Serenades* album, which subsequently was nominated for a Juno Award. Repertoire from the Ensemble's "Music from Berlin in the 1920s" was selected by Woody Allen to underscore his film "Shadows and Fog." CBC Records has recently released the orchestra's fourth compact disc, bringing the total discography with Armenian to twenty-four albums.

A sought-after guest conductor, Maestro Ar-

menian has led the Belgian Radio Orchestra, the Enescu Philharmonic of Bucharest at the Ravenna International Music Festival, the Winnipeg Symphony, the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, L'Orchestre Symphonique de Québec, the Edmonton Symphony and the Hamilton Philharmonic. Maestro Armenian often returns to guest conduct in Kitchener-Waterloo, Victoria, Edmonton and Quebec.

A member of the Order of Canada, Maestro Armenian is also a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal and honorary doctorates from Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Waterloo. He is Professor of Music at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music where he teaches conducting and is Music Director of the U of T Symphony and Chamber Orchestras.

Canadian-born **Scott St. John** has captured the attention of the musical world through his riveting and virtuosic performances on violin and viola. An "electric collaboration" is how the Cincinnati Enquirer described his performances with the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Keith Lockhart on their dual triumphs in Cincinnati and New York. "Brimming with extroverted spirit" is how the Philadelphia Inquirer praised this charismatic artist. But his exciting talents always serve the music, as the Pittsburgh Press has noted, "he is a musician of impeccable taste and natural instincts. He lets the music do the talking".

Mr. St. John has been a soloist with the Cleveland and Philadelphia Orchestras, and in Canada, with the Montreal, Toronto and the Vancouver Symphonies and the National Arts Centre Orchestra of Ottawa. His great success with the Toronto Symphony in 1996/97 led to an immediate re-invitation for 1997/98 with the orchestra's Music Director, Jukka-Pekka Saraste. As viola soloist, he has performed Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante* with the Brandenburg Ensemble with Jaime Laredo. He also played viola with the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra under Keith

Lockhart, and was immediately invited to make his debut with the Boston Pops Orchestra in July 1995. During the 1997/98 season, he performed with the Grand Rapids Symphony under Dmitri Sitkovetsky, CBC Montreal, Red Deer Symphony, and McGill Chamber Orchestra.

Winner of the 1989 Young Concert Artists Award, Mr. St. John made his New York City recital debut to critical acclaim in the 1991 Young Concert Artists Series at the 92nd Street Y. Playing violin, viola and MIDI fiddle, he made his Washington, DC recital debut in the 1993 Series at the Kennedy Center. In recent seasons, He has performed in recital on Ravinia's Rising Stars Series, at Spivey Hall in Atlanta, as well as in Boston's Gardner Museum, the University of California at Davis, the La Jolla Chamber Music Society and Ruth Eckerd Hall, Sarasota, Florida.

Abroad, he has appeared with the Bavarian Radio Orchestra, Lisbon's Gulbenkian Orchestra, the Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic in London and the Hamburg Sinfonia. In 1992, he made his debut in Japan, performing with the late Alexander Schneider, and in recitals in Osaka and Hiroshima. He returned to Japan last season for Gala performances in Tokyo's Casals Hall.

Born in London, Ontario, Mr. St. John began his violin studies at age three with Richard Lawrence and subsequently worked with Gerard Jarry in Paris and David Cerone of the Cleveland Institute of Music. He studied viola with Ralph Aldrich of the University of Western Ontario and Robert Vernon, principal viola of the Cleveland Orchestra. In 1990, he graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music where he studied violin with Jascha Brodsky and Arnold Steinhardt, and chamber music with Felix Galimir. His many awards include the 1994 Virginia D. Moore Award for Most Promising Young Canadian Artist, Lincoln Center's Martin E. Segal Award, First Prize in the 1987 Alexander Schneider Violin and Viola Competition and a top prize in the 1992 Munich International Violin Competition. Professor of Violin and Viola at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music, Mr. St. John teaches violin, viola and chamber music.



Dr. Arthur Plettner
1904–1999

Imagine perfect resonance. A chord is struck, but never fades, sustained forever. Arthur Plettner graduated from the Faculty of Music many years ago and now, because of his generosity, is helping students that have come after him. When Dr. Plettner made a note of remembering the Faculty of Music in his Will, he created an endowment fund that will provide enduring financial support to gifted graduate and undergraduate students in financial need wishing to study at the Faculty of Music. Thank you Dr. Plettner.

For more information on Planned Giving please contact Director of Development Ginny Medland Green in the Faculty of Music by calling 946-3145.

University of Toronto Chamber Orchestra

Violin I

Aidan Pendleton*
Ha-Yan Ji
Elspeth Lacy
Elyssa Lefurgey-Smith
Akemi Mercer
Elation Pauls
Peter Seminovs
Robert Uchida

Violin II

Anita Walsh +
Aramie Kim
Shane Kim
Akiko Kojima
Victoria Lindsay
Christian Robinson

Viola

Claudine Guidoin +
Peter Ing
Cheon Seon Kim
Daniel Trinh

Cello

Rachel Pomedli +
Young-Shi Choi
Mateusz Swoboda
Leo Zhang

Double Bass

Lee McPhee+
Paul Rademacher

Flute

Jennifer Buller
Elizabeth K. Janson

Oboe

Ron d'Orante
Betty Meng

Clarinet

Przemyslaw Raczynski
Robert Woolfrey

Bassoon

Amber Hill
Adele Small

Horn

Seanan McGee
Jane MacKay

Trumpet

Eve Eracleous
Edward Phillips
Brian Vincent, *piccolo*

Percussion

Colin Webster

Harpsichord

Ilya Poletaev

* *Concertmaster*
+ *Principal*

UPCOMING ORCHESTRA CONCERTS

Friday, January 28, 2000 • 8 pm • MacMillan Theatre • \$10/5

University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra

Raffi Armenian, Music Director and Conductor • Rafael Herrador, Violin Soloist

Hindemith	Konzertmusik for Winds
Shostakovich	Violin Concerto No. 1
Brahms	Symphony No. 2

Friday, February 4, 2000 • 8 pm • Walter Hall • \$10/5

University of Toronto Chamber Orchestra

David Zafer, Conductor • Shane Kim, Sarah Pratt & Anita Walsh, Violin Soloists

Vaughan Williams	The Lark Ascending
Dvorak	Romance, Op. 11
Mendelssohn	Violin Concerto in E minor
Britten	Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge

Saturday, April 8, 2000 • 8 pm • MacMillan Theatre • \$10/5

University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Chorus

Raffi Armenian, Music Director and Conductor

Mahler	Symphony No. 3
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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY OF MUSIC
SPRING SEASON HIGHLIGHTS



CANADA'S PERFORMING ARTS
POWERHOUSE

"He dragged out the players a warmth of tone and an intensity of sound...the kind of Brahms Knappertsbusch might have conducted after a month of Ring Cycles at Bayreuth."

— *Ottawa Today*

Raffi
ARMENIAN



Friday, January 28 • Brahms Symphony No. 2
 March 2-5 • Opera—Puccini La Rondine
 Saturday, April 8 • Mahler Symphony No. 3

"The finest cellist Canada has produced since Zara Nelsova." — *Toronto Star*

"Technically she is wondrously accomplished and musically she is the genuine article." — *Boston Globe*

Shauna
ROLSTON



Friday, February 25 • Faculty Artist Series

"There is an impeccableness in Bob Becker's music, and a pulse that emerges and ripples within the body—a tonic for the senses..." — *Musicworks Magazine*

"...shimmering like the northern lights and almost as magical." — *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

Bob
BECKER



Friday, April 7 • Faculty Artist Series
 Bob Becker and Friends: Music for Percussion

"...an ebullient stylist..." — *The Village Voice*

"...a clear virtuoso..." — *New York Times*

"...a true innovator with a delicate touch and a vivid imagination..." — *Jazziz*

Kenny
WERNER



Saturday, January 22 • Jazz Piano Concert & Workshop



"One of the most inventive and imaginative pianistic talents of our time."
 — *Glen Gould*

William
AIDE

Friday, January 21 • Faculty Artist Series
 Beethoven & Brahms



Elmer Iseler Chair in Conducting

"...a brilliant artist and teacher... whose methods and materials could re-energize the art of singing in our schools." — *Canadian Journalist Bronwyn Dratnie*

Doreen
RAO

Saturday, February 26 • Canada! A Choral Country
 Saturday, March 11 • African Celebration
 Saturday, April 1 • Youth Choir Festival



"St. John possesses a remarkable, big rich sound...with stunning intonation and eloquent phrasing" — *Cincinnati Enquirer*

"A musician of impeccable taste and natural instincts." — *Pittsburgh Press*

Scott
ST. JOHN

Friday, February 25 • Faculty Artist Series



"Peerless leader Rob McConnell has outshone himself this time around, producing a marvelously listenable and invariably swinging session that sizzles, shines and surprises from introduction to coda." — *Jazz Report*

Rob
McCONNELL

Wednesday, March 29 • With U of T Jazz Orchestras